name of the offices out of these which are specified to do their work in Hindi under Rule 8(4);

(b) the details of the work being done in Hindi in the offices specified; and

(c) by when the offices notified but not specified to do their whole work in Hindi would be specified ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Headquarters of Central Electricity Authority and its Five Offices in the Region 'A' and 'B' and two offices in the region 'C' are notified in Gazette under Official Language Rule 10 (4). All the five offices in the region 'A' and 'B' have been specified under Official Language rules 8(4).

(b) All types of work relating to administration are done mostly in Hindi.

(c) Process is on to specify two offices located in the 'C' Region under the Rule 8(4).

Techno-Economic clearance for Super Thermal Power Station in Bihar

3130. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority has announced techno-economic clearance for 1980 MW super thermal power station to be executed by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the Power Ministry have decided to undertake distribution reforms in all the 400 power districts at an investment of upto Rs. 50,000 crore for which approval has been sought;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) to what extent the amount will be required to introduce the reforms for power projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) yes, Sir, The Central Electricity Authority has accorded techno-economic clearnace on 28-9-2001 for Barh Super Thermal Power Project of 1980 megawatt capacity in Bihar to be executed by National Thermal Power Corporation.

(b) to (d) : The Government of India have launched the Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) for bringing improvement in the power

distribution systems intially in selected distribution circles. 63 distribution circles were identified for imporvement of the powers distribution systems. The remaining distribution circles will be taken up during 10th Plan (2002-2007). Distribution improvement projects under APDP will be financed through a combination of grant and loan to cover 50% of the project cost. The balance 50% of the project cost will have to be raised from Power Finance Corporation (PFC)/Rural Electrification Corporation (REC)/Financial Institutions. However, in respect of Special Category States 100% of the project will be financed through a combination of grant (90%) and loan (10%) APDP will be used as instrument to leverage reforms in the State Power Sector. The State Governments will have to execute a Memorandum of Understanding committing to time bound reforms and restructuring process for making the State Electricity Boards (SEBs)/ State Utilities commercially viable.

Setting up of Coal based power plants

3131. SHRI ANANTA SETHI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coal based power plants set up in the country during Ninth Plan;

(b) the details of those plants and capacity of each plant; and

(c) the progress of the target set for their commercial production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) During the 9th Plan, twenty three coal based power plants aggregating to 8215 MW capacity are targeted to be commissioned. Out of this, twenty one coal based power plants aggregating to 7505 MW capacity have already been commissioned. Remaining two coal based power plants, namely, Simhadri TPS Unit-1 (500 MW) and Neyveli TPS Stage-I Expansion (210 MW) are scheduled to be commissioned by March, 2002. The details of capacity addition programme of coal based power plants during 9th Plan including their commercial production are enclosed as statement.